

Message Text

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PAGE 01 MOSCOW 11900 261804Z
ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-02
INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 SP-02 SS-15
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R 261752Z MAY 78
FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2283
INFO AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM
AMEMBASSY LUSAKA
AMEMBASSY MAPUTO
AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

UNCLAS MOSCOW 11900

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: UR, PEPR, RH
SUBJECT: PATRIOTIC FRONT LEADER NKOMO IN MOSCOW

1. MAY 26 PRAVDA NOTES MAY 25 CONVERSATION AT CC CPSU BETWEEN SOVIET GROUP, INCLUDING CANDIDATE POLITBURO MEMBER PONOMAREV AND DEP. CHIEF OF CC CPSU INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS DEPT., R. A. UL'YANOVSKIY AND DELEGATION OF ZIMBABWE PATRIOTIC FRONT LED BY ZAPU PRESIDENT JOSHUA NKOMO. PRAVDA GIVES NO SPECIFIC DETAILS, SIMPLY NOTING NKOMO'S THANKS FOR SOVIET "ALL AROUND ASSISTANCE AND SUPPORT" AND CONCLUDING THAT MEETING TOOK PLACE IN "WARM, COMRADELY" CIRCUMSTANCES.

2. SAME ISSUE OF PRAVDA CITES NKOMO REMARKS TO "JOURNALISTS." NKOMO REPORTEDLY SAID THAT ZIMBABWE PATRIOTS WILL NOT LAY DOWN THEIR ARMS AND WILL CONTINUE STRUGGLE FOR JUST SOLUTION TO RHODESIAN QUESTION. CHIEF TASK, HE WENT ON, IS TO STRENGTHEN UNITY OF PATRIOTIC FORCES AND INCREASE THE BLOWS AGAINST THE RACIST REGIME.
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3. REPORTEDLY, NKOMO THEN SHARPLY CRITICIZED IMPERIALIST INTERFERENCE IN INTERNAL AFFAIRS OF ZAIRE UNDER "FAR-FETCHED" PRETEXT OF DEFENDING WHITES IN ZAIRE.

4. COMMENT: NKOMO WAS ONE OF SPEAKERS AT MOSCOW MAY 24 ASSEMBLY TO COMMEMORATE AFRICAN LIBERATION DAY

(SOVIET SPEAKER WAS DEP. CHAIRMAN OF PRESIDUM
A. S. BARKAUSKAS WHO ALSO ATTENDED MAY 25 RECEPTION
ORGANIZED BY AFRICAN DIPLOMATS IN MOSCOW). MATLOCK

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